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ARTICLES To be enquired of by the Church-wardens and Sworne- men, within the Diocesse of Wincheste r, in the Visitation of the reuerend Fa- ther in God, Thomas Bishop of Winton, in his Triennall Visitation, holden 1603.

In the first yeere of the raigne of our most gracious
Soueraigne Lord, James by the grace of God
King of England, Scotland, France, and Ire-
land, defender of the Faith, &c.



Printed at London by Thomas
Purfoot. 1603.

THe Church-wardens and their
assistants are straightly requi-
red to read or heare all these
Articles read ouer vnto them,
and diligently to consider and enquire
thereof, betweene the time of the deliuery
hereof vnto them, and the making of their
presentments.



Articles to bee enquired of, by the Church-wardens and Swoyne-men, within the Diocesse of *Winchester*, and the trueth thereof to be by them, vpon their oathes, certainly presented to the Bishop or his Deputie, with perticular answere to euerie Article.

Articles concerning the Cleargie.



Whether your common prayer be read by your Minister in your Churches or Chappels plainly and reverently vpon all Sundayes and Holydaies, and other daies prescribed, in such order as is set forth in the Booke of common praier, authorized by the Lawes of this Realme, without any innovation, or change of any part thereof at due and conuenient houres: And whether the holy Sacraments be likewise ministred reverently in such manner, as by the Booke of common praier is appointed.

2 Item, whether any person, not being ordered, at the least a Deacon, hath attempted to say common praier openly in your Church or Chappell, or to solemnize matrimonic, or administer the Sacrament of Baptisme.

3 Item, whether the Church-wardens haue permitted or do suffer any Curator or Minister to serue your Church before he be admitted and examined by the Ordinarie in writing, and doe shew his licence vnder seale unto the Church-wardens: and whether any Curate doe serue two Cures in one day.

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4 Item, whether your Minister not being a Preacher, do
euerie Sunday when there is no Sermon, read distinctly
and plainly, some part of the Homilies prescribed and set
forth by the Queenes authortie to be read: and whether any
Minister, not admitted by the Ordinary, or by other law-
full authortie, doe expound any scripture or manner of
doctrine, and thereby omit and leue off the reading of Ho-
milies: or whether any in your Parish doe depreave or speake
against the Homilies, and the vse of them in the Church?

5 Item, whether your Minister doe at the administrati-
on of the Lords Supper, reverently knæle when himselfe re-
ceiueth it, according to the Booke of common praier: and
whether the communicants themselves in like sort doe rever-
ently knæle vpon their knæs at the time of the receiving
thereof: or whether he doe administer it confusedly, to some
knæeling, to some sitting, and to some standing.

6 Item, whether your preacher, in his praier made in his
Sermon, whether it be at the beginning, middle, or end ther-
of, doe vse or omit at any time the praier for his Maiestie,
with his whole title giuen him as King of England, Scotland,
Fraunce, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. of all
causes, and ouer all persons within his Maiesties Domini-
on, as well ecclesiasticall as tempozall, next and immediat-
ly vnder God supreame Gouvernour: and for our most gra-
cious Queen, the Prince of Wales their eldest Sonne, and
all their royll Progenie.

7 Item, whether any Lectures, Cenuenticles, or private
meetings, be read or vsed within your Parishes, either pub-
lique in the Church, or privately in any house, by any not
licensed thereto by the Ordinary: Or whether any such Rea-
der do teach any doctrine of innovation, to withdraw y^e peo-
ple from due obedience to the ordinances of the Church, set
forth by publique authortie, or to cause them to forbeare
participating in prayer and sacraments with our Church?

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8 Item, how many sermons hath your Parson or Vicar preached in his owne Church within this yere past. And if your Parson or Vicar be not a preacher, how many sermons hath he procured to be preached there in this yere past: and who hath preached them, and whether were they that did preach them, licensed or no: and by whom?

9 Item, whether your Minister hath received to the holy communion, any persons which be not of his owne Parish, without testimony from the minister of the place where they dwell what they be, that it may appeare they be not persons excommunicate, or otherwise notorious offenders?

10 Item, whether your Minister doe euerie Sunday or holiday, openly in the Church, call for, heare, and instruct all the children, apprentices and seruants that be of convenient age within your Parish, or at the least, so many of them (by course) as the time will serue, and as he may well heare and instruct for one halfe houre, (at the least) before or after Evening praier; in the ten commandements, the articles of the beleefe, the Lords praier, and the sacraments, and diligently examine and teach them the Catechisme, as it is now allowed, and set forth in the Booke of common prayer: and whether (to that purpose) he hath taken the names of them all, and by course call certaine of them (by name) every Sunday and Holiday to come to the teaching of this Catechisme: and if the Parents & Master be scke in sending them, whether he hath called vpon the churchwardens to present them?

11 Item, whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, or other Minister in your Church or Chappell, hath admitted to the holy communion any publicke excommunicate person, or any open or notorious fornicator, adulterer, or euill liuer, by whom publicke offence is giuen, without due penance first done, to the satisfaction of the congregation, entyned him by his Ordinarie.

12 Item, whether your Preachers or Ministers be peace-makers,

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makers, and exhort their Parishioners to obedience towards their Prince, and all other that be in authoritie, and to the gouernement ecclesiasticall now established, and to charite and mutuall loue among themselues : whether they be diligent in visiting the sick, and comforting them ?

13 Item, whether any person hath preached, declared, or spoken any thing in derogation of the Book of common p[re]nter, which is set forth by the Lawes of this Realme, dispraising or depreaving the same, or any thing therein contained ; or against the Preachers or Ministers of the word and sacraments ?

14 Item, whether there be provided in your Parish one convenient parchment Booke : And whether therin are written the names of all persons, which haue bene christened, married, or buried in that Parish since the beginning of the raigne of our late most gracious Soueraigne Ladie Queen Elizabeth ? And whether euerie page of that Booke being filled with the inscription of those names be subscribed by the Minister and Church-wardens : And whether euerie Sunday after morning or evening p[re]nter, the Minister in the presence of the Churchwardens, doe write into that parchment booke, the names of all persons that haue been christened, married, or buried in the Parish the week before ? And immediatly after the writing of all the saide names, whether the Minister hath openly and distinckly read in the Church all the said names of that precedent weeke, and the day and moneth of the christening, marriage, or buriall of euerie such person. And whether there bee provided in the Church a convenient coffer with th[ree] locks and keyes, for the sure keping of that Register parchment booke : And whether the Minister and both the Church-wardens, having euerie of them one of the sayd keyes in their custodie, do safely keape the said Register Booke in the sayd coffer, according as hath been by the Canons of this Church of England provided.

15 Item,

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15 Item, whether your Ministers doe keepe any man or woman in their houses, suspected to be incontinent persons, or bee themselves giuen to drunke[n]esse, haunters of Taverne[s], ale-houses, or suspected places, or otherwise suspected of any notorious crime, or light disorderd behaviour, or haue giuen any euill example of life, or vse vnseemly apparel in colours, guards, or light fashions.

16 Item, whether for the retaining of the perambulation of the circuit of your Parish, the Minister, Churchwardens, and certain substantiall men of the Parish, in the daies of the Rogations (commonly called Gang-daisies) walke the accustomed bounds of your parish? whether in the same they vse any superstitious or popish ceremonie, but onely meditate of Gods mercie, giue him thankes for blessing of the earth, as is by the law of the Church set downe.

17 Item, wh[er]ether there be any in your Parish that reade[n]eth any priuate lectures, or vseth expositiōnes of the Scriptures in any priuate mans house whatsoeuer, contrarie to law? and whether any preach, and doe not at certaine times in the yere minister the Sacraments in their owne persons, and in such Church where he reade[n]eth his Lecture.

18 Item, whether any Parson, Vicar, or Minister hath procured himselfe to bee admitted into sacred orders by any corrupt meanes of money, reward, guift, or promise of reward, or by any symonicall compact hath p[ro]cured his benefice, directly or indirectly, or be therof by common fame suspected or defamed.

19 Item, whether your Minister doe reiect those women (being married) which do come to the Church to give thanks after childe birth, according to the order set down in the booke of common prayer.

20 Item, whether your Minister haue married any person, not being th[er]e seuerall sundaiies lawfully aske[n]d in their Parish

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Parish churches, according to the book of common prayer, or
not being sufficiently licensed thereunto, by license from the
L. Bishop of Winchester his officers.

21 Item, whether your Parsons and Vicars doe main-
taine and keep in due reparations, their mansion houses and
other edifices belonging to their ecclesiasticall livings, and
not suffer them to fall into ruine and decay : and whether
your almehouses, hospitals, and spittles, be well and godly
used, according to the foundation and auncient ordinances
of the same : and whether there be any other placed in them
than poore, impotent, and needie persons, that haue not
wherewith, or whereby to live ?

Articles concerning the Churchwardens and their assistants.

Item, whether you haue in your Parish Churches and
Chappels, all things necessarie and requisite for common
prayer and administration of the Sacraments : specially the
booke of common prayer with the new Valender, two Psal-
ters, the English Bible in the largest volume, the Table of
the ten commaundements, a conuenient Pulpit well placed,
a comely and decent Table standing on a frame, for the ho-
ly communion, with a faire linnen cloath to lay vpon the
same, and some couering of silke, buckram, or other such like,
for the cleane keeping thereof, a faire and comely communi-
on cup of siluer, and a couer of siluer for the same, which may
serue also for the ministracion of the communion bread, and
a decent large surplesse with sleeves.

2 Item, whether your Churches, and Chappels, with the
chancell, be well and sufficiently repaired and kept, without
abuse of any thing : and whether your churchyards be well
fenced and cleanly kept : and if any part thereof be in decay,
through whose default it is so, and whether any strife hath
growne amongst your neighbours, about pewes or seats in
the Church ?

3 Item,

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3 Item, whether those decayes of your Chauncels and Churches which were lately vpon speciall inquisition presented: haue been and are sufficiently repaired sithence that time according to former commandement given to that purpose, or how much thereof doe yet remaine vndecent, ruinous, or in any decay, and to what value, & by whose fault:

4 Item, whether your Font or Baptisteries be remoued from the place where they were wont to stand: or whether any persons (leaving the use of them) doe christen or baptize in basons, or other prophane vessels, not accustomedly used in the Church before time.

5 Item, whether the Scholemasters within your Parish, openly or privately in any mans house, be of god and sincere religion, lise and conuersation, and be diligent in teaching and bringing vp of youth, and whether with their Schollers they do resort orderly on Sundaises and Holidaies to church: and whether your Scholemasters doe receive the holy communion so oft as they ought to do, and so many of their schollers as be of sufficient age and capacitie to receive: and whether they haue ben examined, allowed, and licensed for schoolmasters by the Ordinarie or his officers in that behalfe:

6 Item, whether all Householders in your Parish haue caused their children, seruants, and apprentices, both mankind and womankind, (being aboue seauen yéres of age) which haue not learned the Catechisme, to come to the church on Sundaises and Holydaies at the times appointed for catechizing, and there diligently and obediently to heare: and what be the names of those that haue not caused their children, seruants, and apprentices, so to come to the Church to be instructed and examined?

7 Item, whether doe any worke or keepe any shew, or any part of their shew open vpon the Saboath daies, or vpon any Holydaies, (appointed by the lawes of the Realme to be kept holi-

holyday, or doe vse any worke or labour vpon those daies.

8 Item, whether you your selues, or the Churchwardens in the yeeres before, haue suffered any vnmarried woman (being begotten with childe) to go out of the Parish before she hath done penance: or any man defamed of whoredome, to depart vnpunished: and forth of whose houses they haue gone away with vnpunished.

9 Item, whether there be any in your Parish, which for any cause whatsoeuer, wilfully forbeare to come to Church, to publique praier, or to heare Gods word preached, pretenting it vnlawfull to come to our assemblies, as the church of England now standeth: and how many moneths they and euerie of them haue so absented themselues by the space of one yere last past.

10 Item, whether any doe refuse to receive the holy communion at their owne Ministers hand, either because he is not a preacher, or because he duely obserueth y order of ministratiōn, appointed by the booke, and who they be that doe go from their owne Parish to receiuē at any other Ministers hands: and whether any of your Parishioners (hauing a preacher to their Minister) doe absent themselues from his sermons, and resoūt to other places to heare other Preachers:

11 Item, whether the people of your Parish (especially householders, hauing not lawfull excuse to be absent) doe diligently themselues resoūt with their childdren and seruants, to the Parish Church or Chappell on holydaies, and chafely on the sundaises, to Morning and Evening prayer, or vpon reasonable let thereof, to some vsuall place where common praier is vsed, and then and there abide orderly and soberly during the time of common praier, Homilies, Sermons, and other service of God there vsed, reverently and deuoutly giuing themselues to the hearing therof, and who they be that negligently absent themselues, or come verie late to the Church, or vse any gaming or pastime abroad, or in any house

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house, or sit in the street, Churchyard, or in any fauerne or alehouse vpon the Saboth or holiday, in the time of common p;ayer, Sermon, or reading of þ Homilies, either before or after none?

12 Item, whether there be within your Parish any In-
keepers, ale-wiues, victuallers or tiplers, that suffer or doe ad-
mit any person or persons in their houses to eate, drinke, or
play at cards, tables, or such like games in the time of com-
mon p;raier or Sermon on the Sundaeis or Holydaies: and
whether any Butcher, or others that commonly vse to sell
meat or other things, doe make sale in the time of common
p;raier, preaching or reading of Homilies: and whether in
any Faires or common Markets (falling vpon the Sunday)
there be any shewing of any wares before Morning prayer
be done: and whether any Markets and selling of wares be
held or suffered in any churchyards, by common packemen
or pedlers going about, or any such people either of your pa-
rish, or not?

13 Item, whether the Church-wardens of the last yere
haue giuen to the Parish a iust account of the Church gods
and rents that were committed to their charge, according to
the custome that hath been afore time vsed: and what Church
goods they or any other haue sould, and to whom: and whe-
ther to the profit of your Church, or no?: and what hath been
done with the monney thereof comming?

14 Item, whether any of your parish (being of conuenient age) haue not receiued the holy communion thrice in eu-
rie yere at the least, and namely at Easter, or thereabouts
for once: and what their names are, or which (at their recei-
ving) haue not signifid the same before to your Parson, Ali-
car, or Curate, that he might conueniently examine them:
and who haue refused to come to him to be examined?

15 Item, Whether there be any in your Parish, that ad-
minister the gods of those that be dead without lawfull au-
thoritie,

thoritie, or any that supprese the last will of the dead, or any Executors that have not fulfilled their Testators Will, especially in paying of Legacies given to the Church, or to other god and godly uses, as to the releife of povertie, to helpe the Wyphanes, pore Scholleris, pore Maidens mariage, high waies, and such like : ant by whom they are so detained?

16 Item, whether there be any in your parish that hath or doth offend contrarie to the Statute made in the 37. yere of the Raigne of King Henrie the eight for the reformation of Usurie, and reuiued by an Act made the thirteenth yere of the raigne of the late Queen Elizabeth, taking aboue the rate of ten pounds for the lending of an hundred pounds by the yere: and what be the names of such offendours?

17 Item, whether your Minister, or any of the Parish, without the consent of the Ordinary, haue caused any to do penance or bee punished, either openly or otherwise, for any crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes onely, and what be the names of the parties that haue been so punished, and in what manner?

18 Item, whether there bee amongst you any that vse sorcery or witchcraft, punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, or that bee suspected of the same, and whether any vse any charmes, or vnlawfull prayers: and whether any doe resort to any such for helpe and counsaile, and what bee the names both of such as vse it, and of such as resort vnto them for helpe?

19 Item, whether there bee among you, any blasphemers of the name of God, great or often swearers, adulterers, fornicatores, incestuous persons, bawdes or receivers of incontinent persons, or harbourers of women with child which be unmarried, conueyng or suffering them to goe away before they doe any penance, or make satisfaction to the congregatiōn, or any that be vehemently suspected of any such fault: any drunckards, or ribawdes, or any that be malitious, contentious, or uncharitable persons, common flaunderers of their neig-

neighbours, raylers, scolders, or solvers of discord between neighbours, and especially raylers against Ministers, and against their mariage.

20 Item, whether there bee any in these parts that haue married within the degrees of affinitie or consanguinitie, by the lawes of God forbiden, or any, that being diuorced or separated so: the same, do yet notwithstanding cohabit and kepe company still together, or any that being maried without those degrees, haue unlawfully forsaken their wiues or husbands and maried others, any man that hath two wiues, or woman that hath two husbands, any that being diuorced or separated asunder haue maried againe, any that haue married and contracted themselves without the consent of their parents, tutoris, and generours, any that haue maried without banes thrice solemnly asked, any couples married that liue not together, but flaunderously liue apart.

21 Item, whether your Minister and Church-wardens haue suffered any lord of misrule or summer Lords or ladies, or any disgrimed persons, or May-games, or morrice dancers, at any time to come vnteruertly into the church or church-yrd, and there to daunce or play, in the time of common Praier, Service, or Sermon upon the Saboath day?

22 Item, whether any within your Parishes doe resort unto barnes, fields, wood, or private houses for any extraordynary expositiuns of scripture, or conferences together, and so doe (as it were) make a severall Church or sect unto themselves, or be drawers, or persuaders of others to any such schismatical secte, and in whose houses, or in what places haue you heard of any such meetings.

23 Item, whether there be any of your parish known or suspected to conceale or keep hidde in their house, any Wasse books or other booke of Propry & superstition, or any charies, copies, vestimentis, or other like superstitious ornaments in their forme and fashyon undefaced, for some exercise of their

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superstition, as may be suspected, if they may have time or
opportunitie thereto: or whether any be knowne or suspected
to receiue any such booke or like trumperie from beyond the
seas, and to disperse and carrie them abroade to others.

24 Item, whether any in your parish, maried in any privat
houses since the last visitation, haue bin knowne or suspected
to haue bin maried by any popish priest, or in any other order
then is appointed by the church of England.

25 Item, whether any childezen borne within your parish
do remaine unbaptized, or be suspected to be baptizēd by any
popish priest, Seminarie, or Jesuite: or whether any Recu-
sants liue together as man and wife, who are not knownen
to be maried according to the lawes of this Realme.

26 Item, whether you know any notorious Recusant,
who obstinately refuseth to be partaker, with the church of
England in publique prayer & hearing the word of God prea-
ched, being for his disobedience and contempt excommunica-
ted, and so dying excommunicate, to be buried in christian
buriall, not hauing before his death sought to be absolved.

27 Item, whether any of the stocks appertaining to the
church, be substracted by any person, and to what value, and
by whom.

Generally, what faults soever you know to be within
your parishes not specified or mentioned in these Articles, &
punishable by the Ecclesiastical laws, you shall by vertue of
your oath aforesaide duely and truly present them to your
Ordinarie, that reformation may be had accordingly.

These

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These subscribed Articles, are specially enioynd and comman-
ded by the said Reuerend father, to be from time to time ob-
serued by the Minister and Churchwardens of euery church.

1 **T**HAT henceforth the Church-wardens shall not per-
mit any Minister to serue the cure of their church
vntill the minister doe first shew forth vnto the said church-
wardens his licence thereto, vnder the hand and seale of the
said Bishop of Winchester, or of his Chancelloz, vpon paine
of contempt.

2 Item, that from henceforth they doe not admit any mi-
nister to preach in their cures, but only such as already be,
or hencelorth first shall be allowed thereto, vnder the hand
or seale of the L. Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace, or of
the said Bishop of Winchester.

3 Item, that a true copie of the names, daies, and month
of the christning, marrying, and burial of all persons in every
parish yéerely subscribed vnder the hands of the minister and
church-wardens, testifying their collation and agrément of
the said copie with the said parchment booke, shall be yéerely
exhibited into the Registry of the Bishoprick of Winchester,
in the yéerely visitations of the Bishcp or his Chancelloz.

4 Item, that in this triennall visitatio, the names of all
lay men presuming, or which by any fauour are tollerated to
read divine seruice in any church, be diligently enquired &
presented: & that henceforth þ churchwardens vpon paine of
law, do not permit any lay man to read divine seruice in the
church, without þ speciall licence of the bishop of Winchester
or of his chancelloz vnder their hand & seale, of which licenses
there shall remaine record in the registry of the said Bishcp.

5 Item, that the churchwardens do vpon the sabbath daies
diligently obserue the careles & negligent commers to diuine
seruice, & after admonition given by the minister and church
wardens, do at þ least at every visitation, present the names
of

of such negligent persons, & the seueral days of their absence.

6 Item, that every beneficed man, not being a preacher allowed by publi que authozitie, and the farmers of beneficed men not being resident, shall every Visitation deliuer to the Register a note in writing of all Sermons preached in their Cures from one Visitation to another, subscribed with the preachers hand, which notes the Register shall (after the vi-sitation ended) certifie vnto the said reverend father.

7 Item, if the Church-Wardens & side-men at this vi-sitation, or any other henceforth, shall wilfully or negligently omit to present any crime or offence worthy of presentment and reformation, whereof the Minister, then or after, may haue knowledge, that then the Minister shall give ad-vertiȝement thereof to the said reverend father or his Chancelloz.

F I N I S.

God save the King.

